

NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY'S FINDINGS FORM

Planning Area:	East Texas	HMAZ/LMAZ Area:	Harris
BDTP:	F/MS	SUBPOPULATION:	Hispanic women (1,12)

	# of surveys completed: 18	
	Information from needs assessment surveys	Assessment
Risk Behaviors (13,15,16, 22,24,25, 26,27,28,29 30,33)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22% reported two or more partners in the past year; 6% reported more than 3 partners in the past year. None of the F/MS Hispanic women surveyed indicated they knew if any of their sex partners in the past year had HIV or an STD. 22% say they had been treated for an STD in the past year. 6% reported engaging in anal sex. Of those engaging in anal sex, 33% reported almost never using a condom for anal sex. 89% almost never use a condom for oral sex. 20% almost never use a condom for vaginal sex. No locations where Hispanic F/MS women engaged in risky behaviors were disclosed. The top six things Hispanic F/MS women said they do to keep from getting HIV are (in order): only have sex with one partner [72%]¹, sometimes use condoms [39%], don't inject drugs [39%], don't abuse alcohol or drugs [33%], always use a condom [28%], and abstinence [28%]. Survey respondents indicated a similar pattern of responses for protection against STDs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A low proportion of the respondents reported they have engaged in sex with multiple partners. Monogamy was mentioned as a primary method Hispanic F/MS women used to reduce their risk for HIV and STDs. There is a moderate prevalence of HIV and STDs in the population based on the morbidity profile for this population. Reported condom use with sex is similar to that observed in the risk profile. No locations were provided on the locations where risky behaviors took place.

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² Information collected from the Counseling and Testing System for HIV positives, 1999-2000.

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*Knowledge (9,11)	<p>Among Hispanic F/MS women:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 83% indicated that anal sex without a condom may increase a person's chance of getting HIV, 72% for getting STDs other than HIV. • 83% indicated that oral and vaginal sex without a condom, each, may increase a person's chance of getting HIV and for getting STDs other than HIV. • 78% indicated that sex-trade work may increase a person's chance of getting HIV, 78% for getting STDs other than HIV. • 83% indicated that unprotected sex under the influence may increase a person's chance of getting HIV and 83% for getting STDs other than HIV. • 83% indicated sex with more than one partner may increase a person's chance of getting HIV and 83% for getting STDs other than HIV. • 83% indicated that injecting drugs and sharing works may increase a person's chance of getting HIV, 50% for getting STDs other than HIV. • 83% indicated that having sex with women may increase a person's chance of getting HIV and 83% for getting STDs other than HIV. • 83% indicated that engaging in sex with a woman who has engaged in risky behaviors may increase a person's chance of getting HIV and 83% for getting STDs other than HIV. • 67% indicated that blood transfusions may increase a person's chance of getting HIV, 39% for getting STDs other than HIV. • 61% indicated that needle sticks may increase a person's chance of getting HIV, 33% for getting STDs other than HIV. • 83% indicated that a being born to a mother with HIV may increase a person's chance of getting HIV and 78% for getting STDs other than HIV. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 80% of the respondents showed good knowledge of HIV transmission routes. Generally, the responses indicate this community as a whole does not need additional education on HIV.

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*Attitudes & beliefs (10,32,34)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On average, Hispanic F/MS women indicated they strongly agreed that a person should tell their sex partner(s) if they have HIV or an STD whether they are using condoms or not. The top reasons Hispanic F/MS women indicated they had sex without a condom are (in order): they trust their partner [29%]¹, drunk or high [17%], in monogamous relationship [17%], and they don't like condoms [17%]. 78% indicated they were not likely to get HIV, and 82% indicated they were not likely to get an STD. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary barriers to condom use were partner trust, monogamous relationship, and not liking condoms. Considering the morbidity rates in this community, and the low risk behaviors indicated, the personal perception of risk may be low.
*Current communication skills (14)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 73% of the Hispanic F/MS women who responded indicated they have talked about getting HIV with at-least some of their partners. 70% of the Hispanic F/MS women who responded indicated they have talked about getting an STD other than HIV with at-least some of their partners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 70% of the Hispanic F/MS women indicated they have discussed their risks for an STD or HIV with their partner. Since most women indicated it was important to discuss risks with their partners, this suggests moderate to good communication skills in this sub-population. It should be cautioned that just because communication is occurring, does not mean that that communication is effective.
*Social/peer support (17)	<p>When asked who they would tell if they had contracted HIV or an STD other than HIV, the following proportions of Hispanic F/MS women indicated they would tell:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Their family; 100% for HIV, 84% for an STD. Their current partner(s); 100% for HIV, 100% for an STD. Their past partner(s); 100% for HIV, 100% for an STD. Their friends; 100% for HIV, 88% for an STD. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of the respondents reported they would be comfortable telling family, friends and partners if they contracted HIV. The proportion indicating the same freedom of discussion about an STD infection was slightly lower than for HIV.

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Testing history/need for testing (18-23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 44% of survey respondents indicated they have tested for HIV in the past year. Of those who were tested, they tested an average of 1.2 times per year. The top reasons Hispanic F/MS women indicated they have tested are (in order): part of routine care [28%]¹, and had sex without using a condom [22%]. The only reason given why Hispanic F/MS women they have not tested was they didn't want to know they had HIV. One of those surveyed indicated they have tested positive for HIV, and she has progressed to AIDS. 50% of the respondents tested for an STD other than HIV in the past year. Of those testing, they tested an average of 1.2 times per year. 44% of Hispanic F/MS women who have tested for an STD in the past year indicated they have tested positive for an STD. One-quarter of those treated for an STD in the previous year were treated multiple times for STD that year. The top reasons cited for not testing for an STD were (in order): not sexually active [17%]¹, and don't think they are at risk [6%], and don't want to know that they have an STD [6%]. 11% of respondents indicated they have tested for Hepatitis A in the past year, 11% for Hepatitis B, 17% for Hepatitis C, and 39% tested for Tuberculosis. 17% of respondents who didn't test indicated they did not test because they did not believe they were at risk for those diseases and 11% indicated they had no symptoms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Testing proportions for these respondents are moderate with 44% of this group testing each year. Those who test, do so an average of 1.2 times a year. Testing proportions may be appropriate for the risks and morbidity in this population. Emphasis should be placed on getting those individuals engaging in risky behaviors to test with the appropriate frequency. 28% of respondents indicated HIV testing as a preventive behavior, part of routine care. A high proportion of the respondents indicated they tested for an STD in the past year (50%). The frequency of testing (1.2 times a year for those who tested) is similar to the average number of partners (1.5) reported in the past year. Between 10 and 40% of this sub-population respondents indicated they have been tested for other diseases in the past year. This suggests this population has additional medical needs other than HIV and STD prevention.
Prevention services currently accessed (19,21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The top four locations Hispanic F/MS women go for an HIV test are (in order): other public clinic [17%]¹, doctor's office [11%], and public STD clinic [11%]. The top locations Hispanic F/MS women go for an STD test are (in order): doctor's office [17%]¹, other public clinic [17%], family planning clinic [6%], public STD clinic [6%], hospital [6%], and corrections [6%]. 19% of respondents indicated barriers in their community to seeking prevention services. Barriers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The primary locations identified by survey respondents for HIV testing and STD diagnosis and treatment were doctor's offices, family planning and public clinics. 19% of the respondents indicated barriers to accessing services. Lack of knowledge

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	<p>community to seeking prevention services. Barriers mentioned include: don't know where to go for [17%]¹, programs or clinics are too crowded or the wait is too long [11%], the hours the programs are offered are inconvenient [11%], and community is too big, don't have HIV or STD program in their community, the programs needed are not offered, have to go to different locations for different services, and don't have transportation at 6% each.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The top locations where Hispanic F/MS women have gotten HIV and STD information are (in order): health care providers [33%]¹, school [28%], the internet [28%], other health clinics [28%], and public health clinics [22%]. The top six locations where Hispanic F/MS women have gotten information on HIV and STDs that has helped them are (in order): school [19%]¹, health care providers [19%], family or friends [14%], and public health clinics [14%]. 	<p>of or existence of programs in the community, convenience and availability of services, and transportation related issues were mentioned as barriers to accessing HIV prevention services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The primary sources of HIV and STD information and useful information reported by the survey respondents were through private health care providers, public clinics, and schools.
Prevention needs (35-39)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For those Hispanic F/MS women indicating they wanted to know more to help protect them from acquiring HIV, the following activities were requested (in order): how to have safe sex [44%]¹, basic information on HIV/STDs [39%], how to talk with partners about using condoms [33%], how to use a condom [22%], and drug abuse counseling and treatment [17%]. Primary locations where Hispanic F/MS women indicated they would get information on HIV and STDs in the future are (in order): other health clinics [83%]¹, drug treatment centers [78%], health care providers [73%], the internet [67%], community-based organizations [67%], counseling and testing centers [67%]. Primary locations where Hispanic F/MS women indicated they would NEVER get information on HIV or STDs in the future are (in order): bars [61%]¹, bath houses [61%], church [61%], work [44%], and shelters [39%]. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic information on HIV/STDs, how to have safe sex, and communication skills and lead the activities wanted by Hispanic F/MS women. Hispanic F/MS women indicated a wide range of settings where they would access HIV and STD prevention services including primary care providers, community based organizations, drug treatment centers, and the internet. The primary locations where Hispanic F/MS women would NEVER seek HIV or STD prevention messages are bars, work, bathhouses, shelters, and church.

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Specific Information about HIV⁺ from HIV⁺ risk profiles	<p>Statewide for all HIV positive Hispanic F/MS women²:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 56% of F/MS Hispanic women HIV positive individuals indicated they never used a condom for anal sex, 59% for vaginal sex, and 76% for oral sex. • 11% indicated an STD diagnosis in the past year. • 35% indicated more than 1 sex partner in the past year. • 9% indicated some sex trade work in the past year, primarily selling sex. • 46% indicated substance use with sex in the past year. • 63% indicated their partners were at risk, and nearly 40% indicated their partners had multiple partners. • The top drugs used during sex were: alcohol [35%]¹, cocaine [21%], and marijuana [11%]. <p>For all HIV positive F/MS women in the Harris HMAZ²:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 48% of F/MS Hispanic women HIV positive individuals indicated they never used a condom for anal sex, 29% for vaginal sex, and 55% for oral sex. • 21% indicated an STD diagnosis in the past year. • 41% indicated they had more than 1 partner in the past year. • 18% of HIV positive F/MS woman in the Harris HMAZ indicated selling sex. • 72% indicated substance use with sex in the past year. • 88% indicated their partner was at risk, and 33% indicated their partners had multiple partners. • The top drugs used during sex were: cocaine [43%]¹, alcohol [38%], and marijuana [32%]. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proportion of Hispanic F/MS women positives reporting using a condom for oral and vaginal sex is higher among HIV positive individuals than the respondents to the needs assessment survey. Among positives, condom use for anal sex is less for HIV positives than observed in the needs assessment. • The proportion of HIV positives with a recent STD diagnosis is significant, one to two in ten positives having an STD in the past year. This is particularly troublesome considering the high proportion (approximately 40%) with multiple sex partners in the past year. • HIV positive F/MS Hispanic women indicated a high perception of their partner's risk (63% statewide, and 88% for all F/MS women in the area). • The drugs of choice for HIV positives are alcohol, cocaine, and marijuana.
Other		

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